

Guide to Online Game Check – Black Bear

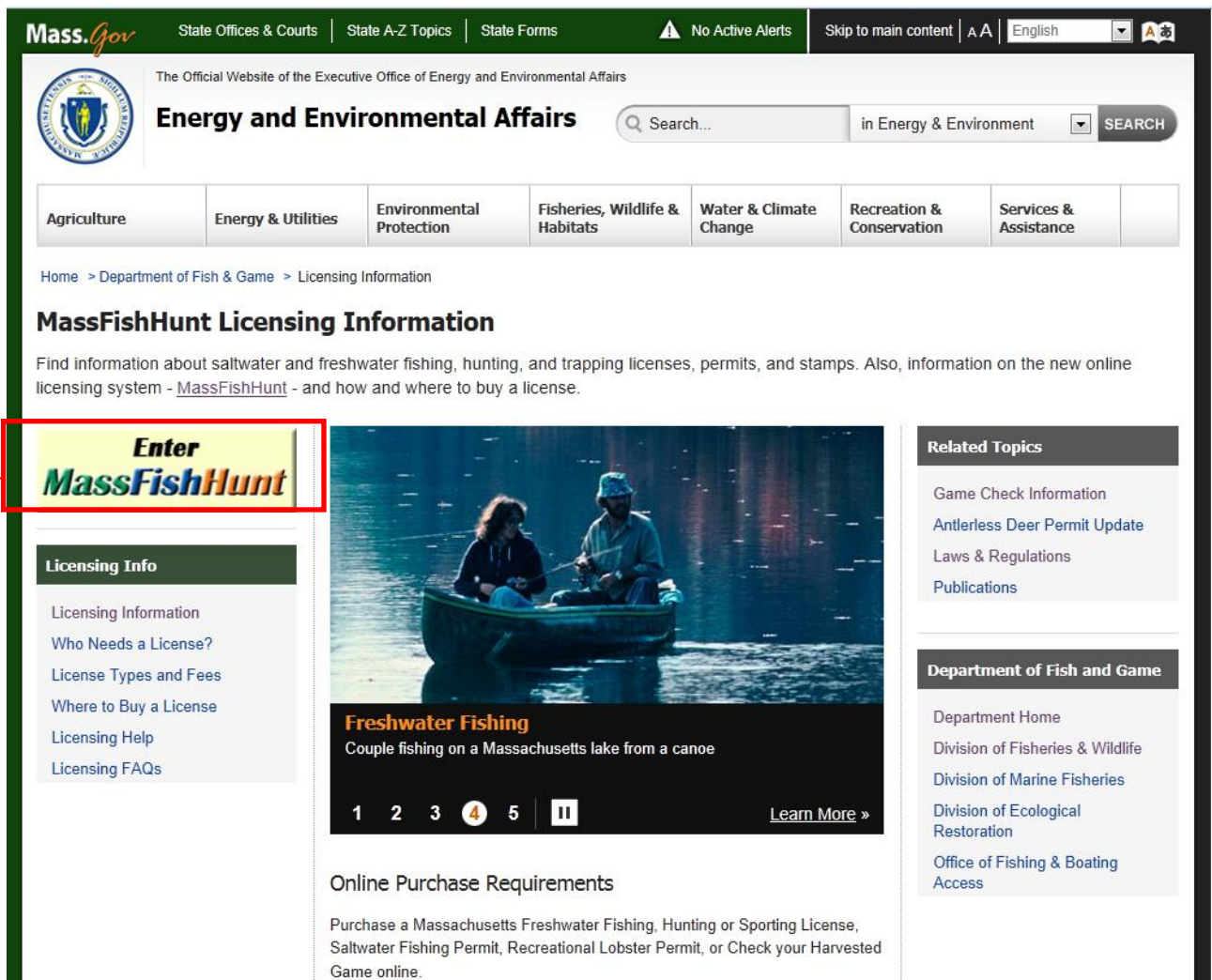
This tutorial will guide you through the process of using the **MassFishHunt** system to check your black bear online. Please take a few minutes to read through this guide before beginning.

To check a harvested black bear online, there are a few, but very important pieces of information needed. Required information will include: town of harvest, date of harvest, and the bear's sex, your hunting method, equipment used, the habitat where you encountered the bear, whether or not you will submit a tooth for aging, and whether or not the bear had a radio collar or ear tags. In addition, optional data questions will include: bear weight, whether the bear was gutted, and whether the weight is an estimate or from a scale.

Remember the harvest tag must remain attached to the black bear throughout this process. After the completion of the online game check, a confirmation number will be generated that must be written on the harvest tag. All successful hunters must check their harvested black bear within 48 hours either online through the **MassFishHunt** system or at a traditional check station. NOTE: You must check your harvested bear BEFORE you process the bear for food or taxidermy purposes. Please use care when entering information on the harvested bear into the **MassFishHunt** system, particularly the date of harvest. Please contact the Division of Fisheries & Wildlife (DFW) during business hours at 508-389-6300 if you have issues checking your black bear online.

1) To start, go to the official **MassFishHunt** webpage by clicking below, **or** copy and paste the following link into your webbrowser (Internet Explorer, Firefox, Chrome, Safari) to reach the official **MassFishHunt** webpage.

<http://www.mass.gov/massfishhunt>



The screenshot shows the Mass.gov website with the following elements:

- Header:** Mass.gov logo, navigation links (State Offices & Courts, State A-Z Topics, State Forms), and a search bar.
- Section:** Energy and Environmental Affairs
- Navigation:** Agriculture, Energy & Utilities, Environmental Protection, Fisheries, Wildlife & Habitats, Water & Climate Change, Recreation & Conservation, Services & Assistance.
- Breadcrumbs:** Home > Department of Fish & Game > Licensing Information
- Section Header:** MassFishHunt Licensing Information
- Description:** Find information about saltwater and freshwater fishing, hunting, and trapping licenses, permits, and stamps. Also, information on the new online licensing system - [MassFishHunt](#) - and how and where to buy a license.
- Buttons:** A yellow button with the text "Enter MassFishHunt" is highlighted with a red box. A red arrow points from this button to the instruction text below.
- Related Topics:** Game Check Information, Antlerless Deer Permit Update, Laws & Regulations, Publications.
- Department of Fish and Game:** Department Home, Division of Fisheries & Wildlife, Division of Marine Fisheries, Division of Ecological Restoration, Office of Fishing & Boating Access.
- Featured Content:** A section titled "Freshwater Fishing" with a photo of a couple fishing from a canoe. Below the photo is a navigation bar with numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and a "Learn More" link.
- Online Purchase Requirements:** Purchase a Massachusetts Freshwater Fishing, Hunting or Sporting License, Saltwater Fishing Permit, Recreational Lobster Permit, or Check your Harvested Game online.

Click the **[Enter MassFishHunt]** button shown above.

2) To enter the **MassFishHunt** system, enter your **Last Name** and **Customer ID** number from your hunting/sporting license or black bear permit in the appropriate field and click **NEXT**. Your Customer ID number can be found in the top left corner of your hunting/sporting license or black bear permit, and in the top left corner of the harvest tag.

Internet Customer Search

MassFishHunt

Welcome to the MassFishHunt Licensing system.

To maintain complete and accurate information, we need to know whether you are a new or existing customer. Please use one of the options below to search for your existing customer record or to create a new customer record.

Search by Customer ID

If you know your Customer ID, enter the required information and click next.

Last Name:* Customer ID:*

Search by Personal Information (NEW Customers, please use this option)

If you cannot provide the information requested above, or if you are a NEW customer, please use this option to search for your existing customer record or to create a new customer record.

Last Name:* Date Of Birth:*
MM/DD/YYYY

Plus at least one of the items below:

First Name: Postal Code:

Note: Asterisk (*) denotes required information.

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For questions regarding Recreational Saltwater Fishing, please contact the Division of Marine Fisheries at (617) 626-1520.
For Internet licensing help, please contact Active Outdoors at (888) 773-8450. (Note: License Agents should call (866) 703-1926).

100%

3) Once logged into the **MassFishHunt** system you can begin your online black bear check; click on the **REPORT A HARVEST** button.

MassFishHunt

Customer Profile Summary

Customer ID: 1384630

Last Name: Hunter First Name: Bear

Middle Initial: Suffix:

Date of Birth: 1/1/1974 Citizenship: US Citizen

Residency: Resident Residency Date:

Residence Address

100 Fake Street
WEST BOYLSTON, MA 01583

Mailing Address

100 Fake Street
WEST BOYLSTON, MA 01583

Hunter Education Records

Hunter Ed Affidavit (POS)

Optional Information

Gender: Male Hair: Brown Eyes: Green

Height: 6' 0" Weight: 190

Email:

Customer Menu

- Edit Customer Information
- License Inventory / Reprint
- Privacy Policy
- Exit

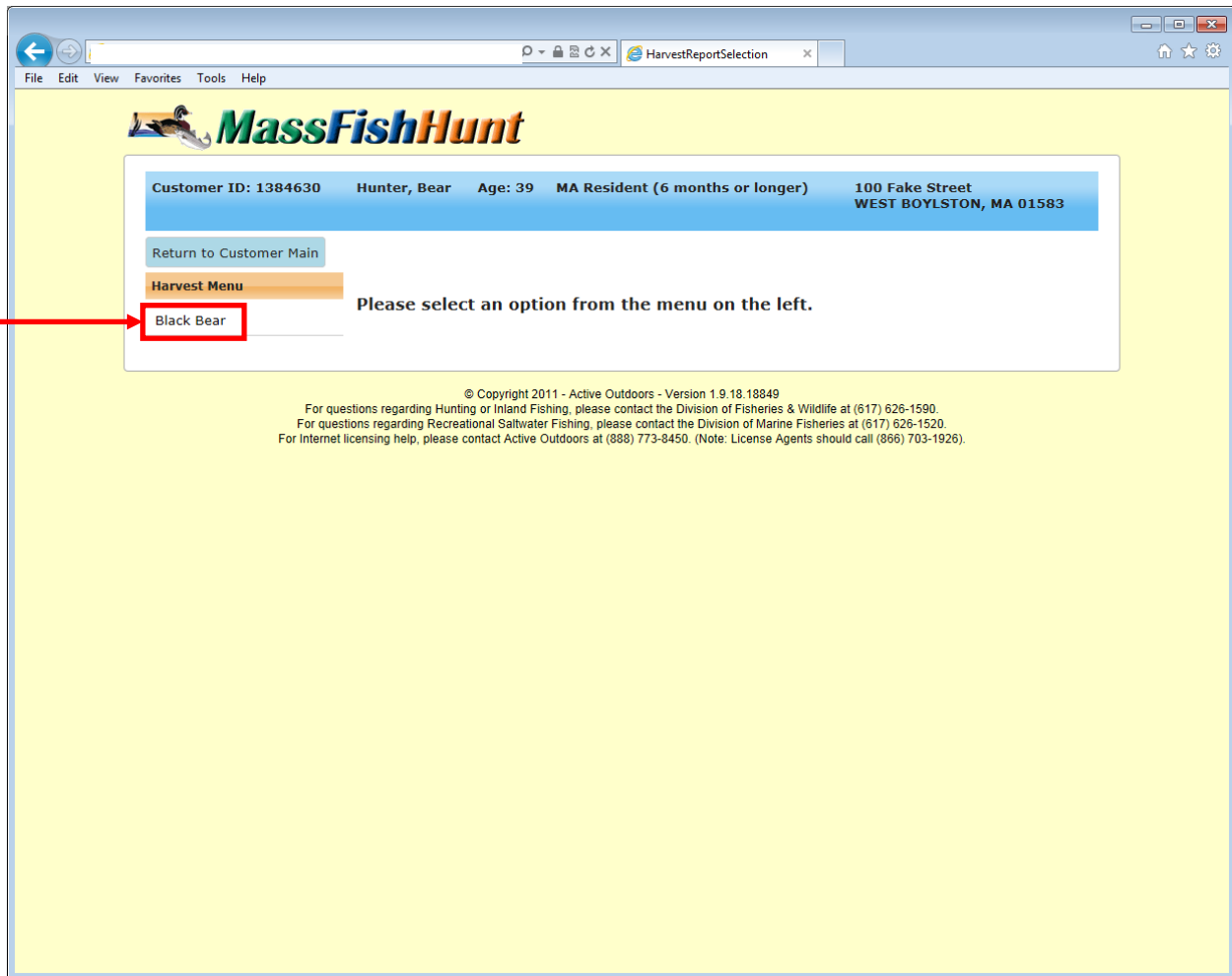
The customer swears under the pains and penalties of perjury that the personal information provided is accurate. The customer also understands that including false information in this application is against the law. Click the 'Enter Sales' button to acknowledge the customer's affirmation regarding the above statements and to make a purchase

Enter Sales

Report a Harvest

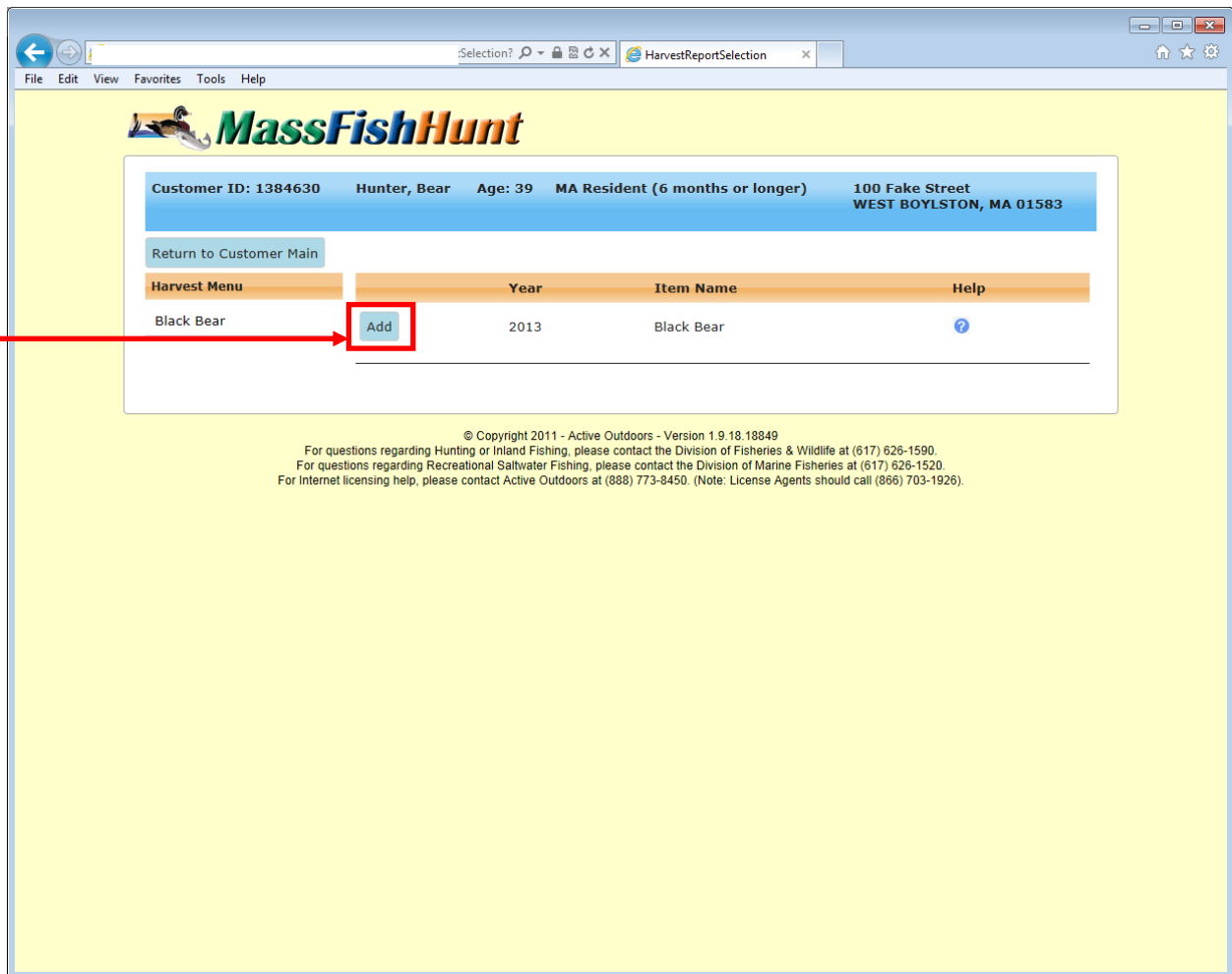
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4) Click the **Black Bear** option on the left side under **HARVEST MENU**. On this page, you may also see options to check your harvested deer, turkey, or furbearers during their respective seasons if you have the appropriate licenses or permits.



5) You are now ready to begin your online game check for a harvested black bear.

Click the **ADD** button.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying "HarvestReportSelection". The website header features the "MassFishHunt" logo. Below the logo, a blue bar contains user information: "Customer ID: 1384630", "Hunter, Bear", "Age: 39", "MA Resident (6 months or longer)", and "100 Fake Street WEST BOYLSTON, MA 01583". A "Return to Customer Main" button is located below this bar. The main content area has a "Harvest Menu" section on the left and a table on the right. The table has columns for "Year", "Item Name", and "Help". A red box highlights the "Add" button next to the "Black Bear" entry in the table. The footer contains copyright information and contact details for the Division of Fisheries & Wildlife and the Division of Marine Fisheries.

Year	Item Name	Help
2013	Black Bear	?

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6) The **2013 BLACK BEAR HARVEST REPORT** consists of a series of questions, many of which are multiple-choice. Questions 1-8 are required information, the rest are optional. You will need to examine your black bear for some of these questions. Your responses to these questions provide DFW biologists important information used to evaluate and manage the statewide bear population. Please take a few minutes to answer each question accurately. Also, please consider submitting a tooth for aging (guidance is provided in step 8b). Simply click in the box to the right of each question and enter or click on the appropriate response.

MassFishHunt

Customer ID: 1384630 Hunter, Bear Age: 39 MA Resident (6 months or longer) 100 Fake Street
WEST BOYLSTON, MA 01583

2013 - Black Bear

1 . In which town did you harvest the bear?	WEST BOYLSTON	?
2 . What was the date of harvest?	09/10/2013	?
3 . What is the sex of the bear?	Male	?
4 . What was your hunting method?	From a treestand	?
5 . What hunting equipment did you use to harvest the bear?	Rifle	?
6 . In what habitat did you first encounter the bear?	Hardwoods	?
7 . Will you submit a tooth for aging? Please visit the MassWildlife website for instructions on how to submit.	Yes	?
8 . Did the bear have a radio collar or ear tags? PLEASE RETURN ANY COLLAR TO YOUR LOCAL DFW OFFICE.	Yes	?
9 . If ear tagged, what were the ear tag numbers?	[Select One] Yes No	?
10 . *OPTIONAL* What is the weight (in pounds) of the bear?		?
11 . *OPTIONAL* Was the bear gutted or ungutted?	[Select One]	?
12 . *OPTIONAL* Did you weigh the bear on a scale or estimate the weight?	[Select One]	?
13 . *OPTIONAL* Please list any additional comments:		?

Cancel Submit

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6a) You can click on the blue question marks to the right of each question for additional information to help answer each question.

The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "Customer Harvest Report" displaying the "MassFishHunt" interface. At the top, a blue header bar contains the following information: "Customer ID: 1384630", "Hunter, Bear", "Age: 39", "MA Resident (6 months or longer)", and "100 Fake Street WEST BOYLSTON, MA 01583". Below this, a section titled "2013 - Black Bear" lists 13 questions. To the right of each question is a corresponding input field or dropdown menu, and to the right of each input field is a blue question mark icon. A red arrow points from the text in the instruction block to the first question mark icon. A "Help" popup window is open over the first question, displaying the text: "Fill in the town in which you harvested the bear." and a "Close" button. The bottom of the form has "Cancel" and "Submit" buttons. At the very bottom, there is a copyright notice: "© Copyright 2011 - Active Outdoors - Version 1.9.18.18849" and contact information for the Division of Fisheries & Wildlife and the Division of Marine Fisheries.

Customer ID: 1384630 Hunter, Bear Age: 39 MA Resident (6 months or longer) 100 Fake Street WEST BOYLSTON, MA 01583

2013 - Black Bear

1 . In which town did you harvest the bear? WEST BOYLSTON ?

2 . What was the date of harvest? 09/10/2013 ?

3 . What is the sex of the bear? Male ?

4 . What was your hunting method? From a treestand ?

5 . What hunting equipment did you use to harvest the bear? Rifle ?

6 . In what habitat did you first encounter the bear? Hardwoods ?

7 . Will you submit a tooth for aging? Please visit the website for more information on how to submit. Yes ?

8 . Did the bear have a radio collar or ear tags? LOCAL DFW OFFICE. Yes ?

9 . If ear tagged, what were the ear tag numbers? ?

10 . *OPTIONAL* What is the weight (in pounds)? ?

11 . *OPTIONAL* Was the bear gutted or ungutted? [Select One] ?

12 . *OPTIONAL* Did you weigh the bear on a scale or estimate the weight? [Select One] ?

13 . *OPTIONAL* Please list any additional comments: ?

Help

Fill in the town in which you harvested the bear.

Close

Cancel Submit

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6b) The Division collects bear teeth to determine the age structure of the harvest. If you submit a tooth for aging, we will mail you a letter in June with your harvested bear's age. If you would like to contribute to the scientific management of Massachusetts' black bear population and would like to know the age of your bear, please follow the instructions below.

1. The tooth you should remove is the first premolar (see photo below). This is a very small tooth, just behind the large canine tooth. It does not matter if you take the left or the right tooth. However, the **root** is the most important part. Do not break the tooth.

2. Using a small sharp knife, or a sharp ¼-inch wood chisel, slide the blade down the side of the tooth and cut or separate the gum tissue where it sticks to the tooth. Using a small needle-nose pliers or the pliers on your multi-tool, wiggle the tooth slightly until you can pull it out of the jawbone and the gum. The tooth is only about ½-inch (or less) in length. Go easy and do not break it.

REMOVE THIS TOOTH



3. Put the tooth in the small envelope provided, or other small envelope, and mark it with your name, Customer ID number and confirmation number (or seal number) of your bear. Also include your name and mailing address. Put the small envelope in a regular mailing envelope and send it to:

MA Division of Fisheries and Wildlife
100 Hartwell Street, Suite 200
West Boylston, MA 01583

7) Once you have completed answering all questions, click the **SUBMIT** button (NOTE: not all fields are required). You will have a chance to edit your responses before they are finalized, but please double-check to ensure that all required fields are accurately entered.

Customer ID: 1384630 Hunter, Bear Age: 39 MA Resident (6 months or longer) 100 Fake Street WEST BOYLSTON, MA 01583

2013 - Black Bear

1 . In which town did you harvest the bear? WEST BOYLSTON ?

2 . What was the date of harvest? 09/10/2013 ?

3 . What is the sex of the bear? Male ?

4 . What was your hunting method? From a treestand ?

5 . What hunting equipment did you use to harvest the bear? Rifle ?

6 . In what habitat did you first encounter the bear? Hardwoods ?

7 . Will you submit a tooth for aging? Please visit the MassWildlife website for instructions on how to submit. Yes ?

8 . Did the bear have a radio collar or ear tags? PLEASE RETURN ANY COLLAR TO YOUR LOCAL DFW OFFICE. Yes ?

9 . If ear tagged, what were the ear tag numbers? 789/790 ?

10 . *OPTIONAL* What is the weight (in pounds) of the bear? 200 ?

11 . *OPTIONAL* Was the bear gutted or ungutted? Gutted ?

12 . *OPTIONAL* Did you weigh the bear on a scale or estimate the weight? Scale ?

13 . *OPTIONAL* Please list any additional comments: ?

Cancel Submit

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Please ensure that the date of harvest and all other fields are entered accurately.

8) You will need to confirm the submission by clicking **YES** on the pop-up. Before doing so, **make sure all the information provided is accurate** as you will not be able to edit any information after clicking YES. If you need to edit any information, click **NO** and then change your entries. When finished proceed from step 7.

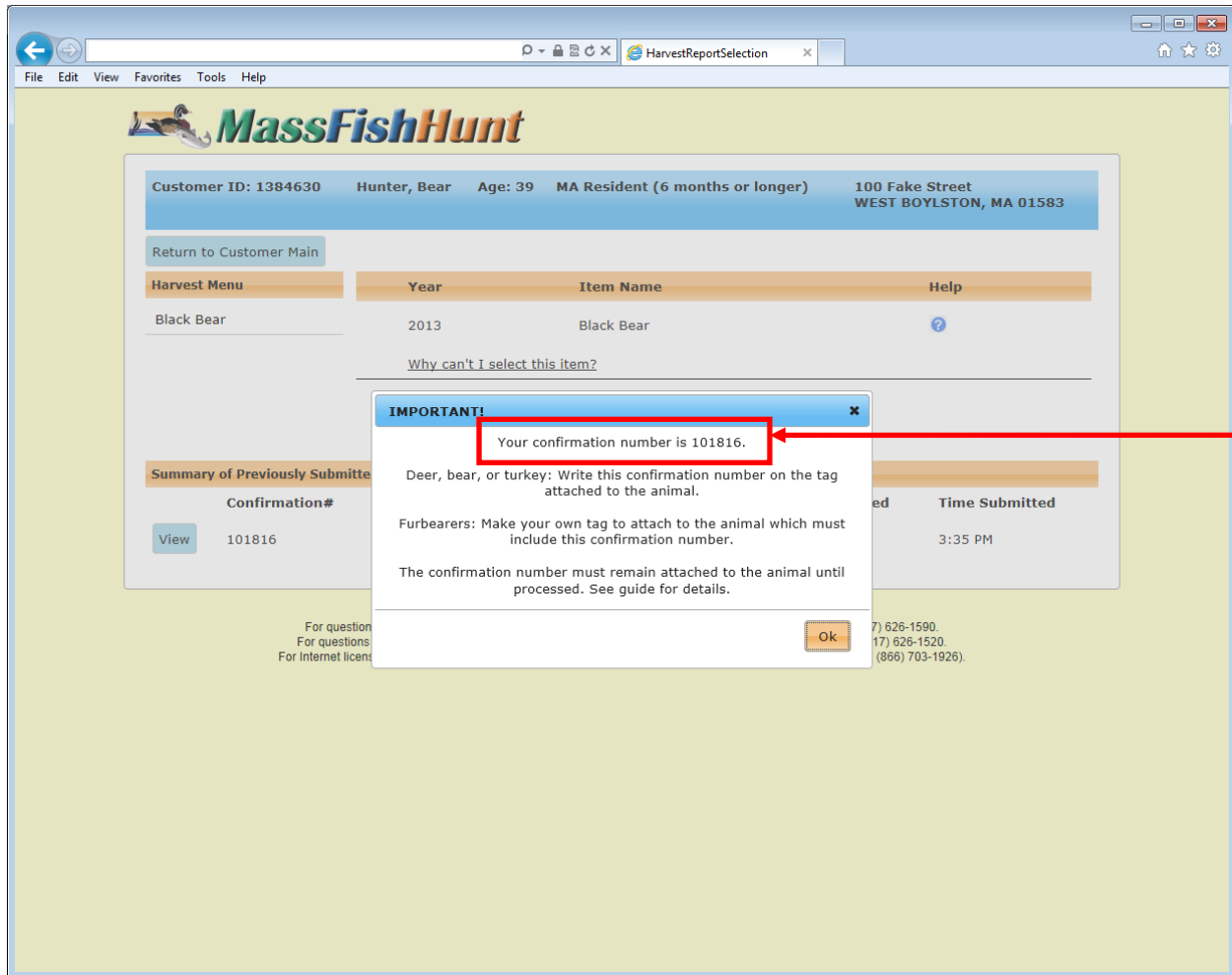
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- 1. In which town did you harvest the bear? (WEST BOYLSTON)
- 2. What was the date of harvest? (09/10/2013)
- 3. What is the sex of the bear? (Male)
- 4. What was your hunting method? (From a treestand)
- 5. What hunting equipment did you use to harvest the bear? (Rifle)
- 6. In what habitat did you first encounter the bear? (Hardwoods)
- 7. Will you submit a tooth for aging? Please visit [how to submit](#). (Yes)
- 8. Did the bear have a radio collar or ear tags? LOCAL DFW OFFICE. (Yes)
- 9. If ear tagged, what were the ear tag numbers? (703/736)
- 10. *OPTIONAL* What is the weight (in pounds) of the bear? (200)
- 11. *OPTIONAL* Was the bear gutted or ungutted? (Gutted)
- 12. *OPTIONAL* Did you weigh the bear on a scale or estimate the weight? (Scale)
- 13. *OPTIONAL* Please list any additional comments: (Empty text box)

A "Confirmation" pop-up window is overlaid on the form, asking: "Once reports are submitted, no changes may be made. Are you sure you want to submit?". It features two buttons: "No" and "Yes". The "Yes" button is highlighted with a red square, and a red arrow points from the text in step 8 to it. At the bottom right of the form, there are "Cancel" and "Submit" buttons. The footer of the page contains copyright information and contact details for the Division of Fisheries & Wildlife and the Division of Marine Fisheries.

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9) After completing your online game check, a unique **CONFIRMATION NUMBER** will be generated. It is required that you **write this confirmation number on the harvest tag** (that should still be on the harvested bear), where it shall remain until the bear is processed for food or taxidermy purposes. Butchers or taxidermists should not accept bears without an official metal tag (bear checked at a physical check station), or a harvest tag with a confirmation number (online game check).



Click on the **OK** button after you have recorded the confirmation number.

10) A hunter can harvest 1 bear per year. Thus, once you submit a harvest report for a bear, you can no longer add an additional black bear harvest report. If you reprint your bear permit, it will show that your permit has been fulfilled. If you made an error on your harvest report, you can no longer edit it and must contact MassWildlife.

The screenshot shows the MassFishHunt web application interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'File', 'Edit', 'View', 'Favorites', 'Tools', and 'Help'. Below this is the 'MassFishHunt' logo. A blue header bar displays customer information: 'Customer ID: 1384630', 'Hunter, Bear', 'Age: 39', 'MA Resident (6 months or longer)', and '100 Fake Street WEST BOYLSTON, MA 01583'. A 'Return to Customer Main' button is located below the header. The 'Harvest Menu' section shows a table with columns 'Year' and 'Item Name'. A red arrow points from the text in the first paragraph to a link 'Why can't I select this item?' below the 'Black Bear' entry in the table. Below the menu is a 'Print Submitted Harvest Report Summary' button. The 'Summary of Previously Submitted Harvest Reports' section contains a table with columns: 'Confirmation#', 'Harvest Report Name', 'Town of Harvest', 'Date Submitted', and 'Time Submitted'. A red box highlights the 'View' button next to the first row of data. At the bottom, there is a copyright notice and contact information for the Division of Fisheries & Wildlife and the Division of Marine Fisheries.

Confirmation#	Harvest Report Name	Town of Harvest	Date Submitted	Time Submitted
101816	2013 Black Bear	WEST BOYLSTON	09/10/2013	3:35 PM

The **MassFishHunt** system will store the game you have checked online. To view the specific details of any one online harvest report, click the **VIEW** button.

11) After clicking **VIEW**, this is what your harvest report looks like. The **MassFishHunt** system will store the submitted game checks, you may print a copy of these submitted harvest reports at any time.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying 'arvestRep...' and a tab titled 'ExistingHarvestReport'. The website has a yellow background and the 'MassFishHunt' logo at the top. Below the logo, there is a section titled '2013 Black Bear'. A message states: 'You may print this page for your records by clicking the **Print this Page** button.' followed by a 'Print this Page' button. Below this is a table with 15 rows of questions and their corresponding answers. At the bottom of the table is a 'Confirmation Number' field with the value '101816'. Below the table is a 'Return to Menu' button. At the very bottom of the page, there is a copyright notice and contact information for the Division of Fisheries & Wildlife and the Division of Marine Fisheries.

1. In which town did you harvest the bear?:	WEST BOYLSTON
2. What was the date of harvest?:	09/10/2013
3. What is the sex of the bear?:	Male
4. What was your hunting method?:	From a treestand
5. What hunting equipment did you use to harvest the bear?:	Rifle
6. In what habitat did you first encounter the bear?:	Hardwoods
7. Will you submit a tooth for aging? Please visit the MassWildlife website for instructions on how to submit.:	Yes
8. Did the bear have a radio collar or ear tags? PLEASE RETURN ANY COLLAR TO YOUR LOCAL DFW OFFICE.:	Yes
9. If ear tagged, what were the ear tag numbers?:	789/790
10. *OPTIONAL* What is the weight (in pounds) of the bear?:	200
11. *OPTIONAL* Was the bear gutted or ungutted?:	Gutted
12. *OPTIONAL* Did you weigh the bear on a scale or estimate the weight?:	Scale
13. *OPTIONAL* Please list any additional comments.:	
14. What is the check station number?:	
15. What is the seal number?:	
Confirmation Number	101816

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